

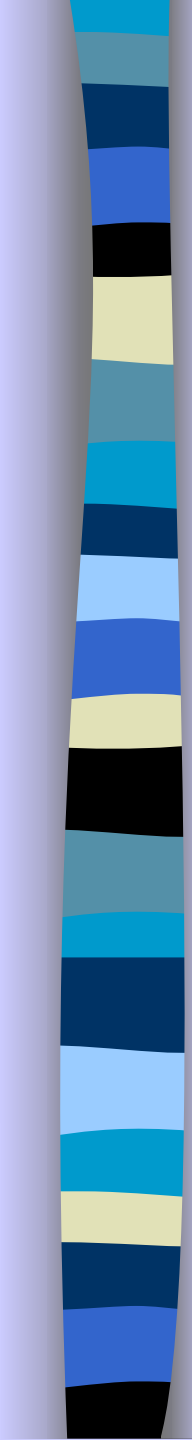
# State Implementing Legislation





# QSA & Salton Sea Restoration Implementation Bills, 2003

- SB 277 (Ducheny)
- SB 317 (Kuehl)
- SB 654 (Machado)

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- *It is the intent of the Legislature that the State of California undertake the restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem & the permanent protection of the wildlife dependent on that ecosystem*



# QSA implementation elements related to Salton Sea

- DFG incidental take authorization for fully protected species, adaptive management process for species conservation
- QSA mitigation costs up to \$133M paid by IID, CVWD, SDCWA, payments made to JPA chaired by DFG
- CVWD, IID, & SDCWA to pay \$30M into Restoration Fund administered by DFG



## QSA elements, con't

- *... no further funding obligations or in-kind contributions of any kind for restoration of the Salton Sea shall be required of the IID, the CVWD, the MWDSC, and the SDCWA, including federal cost-sharing or other federal requirements. Any future state actions to restore the Salton Sea will be the sole responsibility of the State of California.*



# QSA elements, con't

- DWR to purchase up to 1.6 MAF from IID & sell the water to MWD, with proceeds going to Restoration Fund
- MWD to pay \$20/AF to Restoration Fund for all special surplus water received pursuant to ISG
- IID to pay ecosystem restoration fee established by DFG for certain non-QSA transfers



## QSA elements, con't

- IID held harmless for Salton Sea impacts resulting from transfers of conserved water



# Salton Sea ecosystem restoration

- Resources Secretary to complete ecosystem restoration study by 12/31/06
- Study to be conducted in consultation with Salton Sea Authority and Salton Sea Advisory Committee
- Resources Secretary to seek agreement with Secretary of the Interior for federal participation





# Ecosystem restoration, con't

- Restoration study alternatives to include ones that:
- Sustain avian biodiversity w/o maintaining elevation of entire sea
- Maintain near-current salinity & sea elevation of -230
- Represent most cost-effective technical alternative



# Ecosystem restoration, con't

- Study to be accompanied by programmatic environmental document
- Study to include proposed funding plan for implementing preferred alternative
- Study to be accompanied by plan for use of the up to 1.6 MAF of transferred water



# Ecosystem restoration, con't

- Preferred alternative to provide maximum feasible attainment of:
- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic/shoreline habitat for historic biodiversity levels
- Elimination of air quality impacts due to restoration
- Protection of water quality



# Ecosystem restoration, con't

- Money in Restoration Fund administered by DFG to be used for:
- Implementing conservation measures to protect the fish & wildlife species dependent on the sea. Conservation measures to be limited to Salton Sea & lower Colorado River ecosystems, including the Colorado River Delta.
- Developing and implementing preferred restoration alternative